

JOHNSON SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING
THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019

Present: Joie Lehouillier, Mara Segal, Sophia Berard, Jay Stanton, Howard Romero

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Howard called the meeting to order at 7:04.

There were no directors' orders. Howard said we have \$5,211.35 in the account. Mara asked if the expenses for sound equipment have been accounted for yet. Howard said yes; that check went out in the last fiscal year. He asked Rosemary to give a financial report just for this fiscal year, which started July 1. (*Sophie arrived at 7:06.*)

Howard said he had received a request from someone who wants to be a vendor serving barbecue. Joie said she feels potential vendors should be asked to send an email to the TNL address. It will be important in future years to be able to go back and see the emails so we can see who we have said yes or no to.

Howard asked what he needs to be able to view emails to the TNL address. Does he need a password? Others said Jen Burton had previously sent a group email with the password.

Sophie asked Howard to ask the potential vendor to send a detailed description of his operation to the TNL email and then she will deal with it. Mara suggested he could show up on Tuesday if it seems like it will work out. There is room.

Sophie said there was a misunderstanding that led to one vendor parking in the spot that had previously been used by another vendor, instead of the spot Sophie had indicated he should use. The vendor whose spot was taken was upset and had words with the other vendor. The vendor who was in the wrong spot said he couldn't move. He was rude and disrespectful when Sophie, Joie and Jen tried to talk to him. Eventually they were able to speak to his partner, who said they will park in a different spot next week.

Mara said Nat said the selectboard or Brian Story can help out in situations like this if needed. The TNL committee members are volunteers and don't need to deal with difficult situations like this.

It was agreed to send emails to both the vendors who were involved in the confrontation warning them that if there is any confrontation again the vendors involved will be asked to leave and telling them that if they have any issues they should come directly to the committee. Sophie will write draft letters and send them to Howard, who will send them to the vendors.

Mara said one thing we learned is that we really can't separate garbage and recycling because recycling is all dirty. She thinks we will just have garbage and returnables in the future; there won't be any clean recycling. Howard said we should take back the stands with clear plastic bags

then. All the trash cans there were his; he will keep bringing them. Mara said we went through about 8 plastic bags on Tuesday.

Mara said no one was sure where compost was supposed to go. Howard said he is not sure but there is little enough that he can just take it on Saturday when he goes to the dump.

Mara said one of the compost containers didn't have a lid. Howard said he doesn't know what happened to it. They aren't our containers; they belong to the solid waste district.

Howard said he will get bungee straps to hold the tops of the bags open.

Jay said he has found a couple of volunteers for the greening stations. They don't want to work during next week's show because they really like that band, but they will do all the others.

Joie said she found people didn't care where she wanted them to put trash. Mara said some people were really happy we separated things but others were just throwing trash anywhere.

Sophie asked if we want to put out a call for greening station volunteers on Front Porch Forum. Joie said she was planning to.

Howard said the TNL signs should just stay up between shows. Joie and Sophie brought up the possibility that they could be stolen. Howard said it is hard to put them up again. Someone has to climb on a table. Jay said he can put them up before shows and we can store them in the bandstand.

There is a request to hold a bake sale at TNL to support the Center for America's First Horse. Mara said if a non-profit is trying to raise money that is different from organizations just giving out information. If we say yes to this request then we have to say yes to any group that wants to raise money. We have said no to people selling merchandise and this is not that different.

Joie said she doesn't have strong feelings either way, but if we are going to allow it she suggests we at least say the group has to be a 501(c)(3). What about school groups that want to raise money for trips? Is there a standard we will use to decide who can sell things or will we say yes to everyone?

Howard said if we let the Center for America's First Horse have a bake sale there is the question of whether they can come every week or if it will just be one time. He feels it should just be one time.

Jay said he thinks it is okay to decide case by case what to allow. Joie suggested we could only allow so many per week. Jay said in the past it has been open to anyone and then more recently the TNL group started saying people could only sell food. People might be surprised because in the past people have been more free to set up a stand.

Sophie asked if they would pay a fee. Howard said he doesn't think so if it is a non-profit or a group doing some public good. They would only be there one time.

Howard said we should check with Jen Burton on this. She has been working with non-profits. Sophie agreed we should ask Jen for her opinion.

Joie said she doesn't want to say no to this but if we say yes to them and no to someone else we need a good reason. Mara suggested maybe we should just say no for this year. Before next year we can have time to think about it and have policies in place. If we allowed this we would have to have meetings every week to decide who could come. Sophie suggested seeing what Jen has to say and if she says no we will tell people no for this year. Mara will contact Jen.

Mara said she wants to set up a projection of finances. She asked group members to send her any projected expenses.

Jay said Brian told him they are working on the spigot. Howard said it won't happen this year because they haven't put a meter on it. Jay suggested we could fill containers at the cold spring for the bands. Sophie said Tim still hasn't ordered water bottles for the bands. Jay said bands usually have their own. Sophie said we can just bring gallon containers. Jay said bands do need water and they expect it. He thinks he can find some gallon containers. Sophie said she will double check with Tim on whether water bottles will be ordered this year.

Howard said Rosemary told him we can pay for items and then present a bill to her for reimbursement.

Mara said no tupperware containers were sold on Tuesday. Sophie said she thinks she will make a sign for them.

Mara moved to adjourn at 7:46, Sophie seconded and the motion was passed.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths